

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS

PETITION OF VERIZON NEW ENGLAND INC. FOR A WAIVER OF SECTION 3.5(B) OF THE RULES GOVERNING COMMUNITY ANTENNA TELEVISION SERVICES	<u>Docket No. 2007-C-1</u>
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**PETITION OF VERIZON NEW ENGLAND INC. FOR A
WAIVER OF SECTION 3.5(B) OF THE RULES
GOVERNING COMMUNITY ANTENNA TELEVISION SYSTEMS**

I. INTRODUCTION

Verizon New England Inc. (“Verizon”) submits this Petition pursuant to Section 13 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (the “Division”) and Section 1.12 of the Division’s Rules Governing Community Antenna Television Systems (hereinafter “Cable Rules”). Verizon hereby petitions the Division for a waiver of the sixty-day notice requirement in Section 3.5(b) of the Cable Rules.

II. STANDARD OF REVIEW

The standard of review applicable to this Petition is found in Section 1.12(d) of the Cable Rules. Section 1.12(d) states that “the Administrator, after public hearing, shall determine on the basis of the petition, written comments, and testimony received, whether the public interest would be served by the granting, in whole or in part, or by the denial of the request.”

III. VERIZON’S REQUEST FOR WAIVER

Verizon filed a sixty-day notification letter in compliance with Section 3.5(b) of the Cable Rules on November 7, 2007. However, Verizon will be prepared to provide

Cable Service to approximately twenty-nine percent (29%) of the residential households in Service Areas Two, Three, and Eight on or around December 17, 2007. If Verizon is granted the requested Certificates of Authority to Operate prior to January 6, 2008, there is no reason to delay its entry into the cable television market in Service Areas Two, Three, and Eight. It is clearly in the public interest and the best interests of the residents of Providence, North Providence, Cranston, Foster, Scituate, Johnston, Westerly, Hopkinton, Richmond, Charlestown, South Kingstown, and Narragansett for Verizon to be allowed to provide cable service as soon as possible after the Division grants it Certificates of Authority to Operate. To this end, Verizon also requests that the Division consider its Petition in conjunction with its Application for Certificates of Authority to Operate in Service Areas Two, Three, and Eight in order to streamline the proceedings and expedite Verizon's entry into the cable marketplace.

IV. CONCLUSION

For the reasons above, Verizon respectfully requests that the Division conduct a public hearing pursuant to Section 1.12(d) of the Cable Rules and thereafter grant this Petition seeking a waiver from Section 3.5(b) of the Cable Rules.

Respectfully Submitted,

VERIZON NEW ENGLAND INC.

By its attorneys,

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November 7, 2007